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SENATE MEMORIAL 61

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Richard C. Martinez

A MEMORIAL

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EMILIO NARANJO AND EXPRESSING THE
CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE UPON HIS PASSING.

WHEREAS, Emilio Naranjo died November 13, 2008 at the age
of ninety-two; and

WHEREAS, he was born on April 21, 1916 in Guachupangue,
New Mexico, to Alejandrino and Delfina Naranjo and remained a
resident of Espanola for the rest of his life; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents; his
brothers, Ramon, Gilberto, Daniel and Nicholas; his sister,
Lupe; his son, Gerald Naranjo; his grandson, Benny Naranjo,
Jr.; and his granddaughter, Judy Naranjo; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his sons, Emilio, Benny,
Barney, Larry, Raul, Joseph and David; his daughters, Lorraine
Lopez, Jeanette Salazar, Susie Salazar, Beverly Parmer and

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1 Cecilia, Anna and Marguerite Naranjo; thirty-eight
2 grandchildren; forty-one great-grandchildren; one great-great-
3 grandchild; and many other loving friends and family members;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Emilio Naranjo served in the New Mexico senate
6 for eighteen years from 1977 to 1978 and from 1980 to 1996,
7 serving as vice chair of the Indian affairs and public affairs
8 committees, and as a member of numerous other standing and
9 interim legislative committees; and

10 WHEREAS, he served his community as county sheriff for
11 five years, and served as a United States marshal, appointed by
12 Lyndon B. Johnson, from 1965 to 1968; and

13 WHEREAS, he was the county manager of Rio Arriba county in
14 1978; and

15 WHEREAS, Emilio Naranjo started the young democrats of Rio
16 Arriba county in 1942, and a decade later served as the chair
17 of the Rio Arriba democratic party, a position he held for over
18 forty years, building it into a powerful political force; and

19 WHEREAS, he was generous with his time and money and
20 became a mentor to generations of aspiring Rio Arriba county
21 politicians, schooling them in the political peculiarities of
22 northern New Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, in his last major political appearance, Emilio
24 Naranjo, a longtime supporter of the Kennedy's, introduced
25 United States Senator Edward M. Kennedy as a "personal friend"

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1 at a rally for presidential candidate, John Kerry; and

2 WHEREAS, he became famous for his quote "Signs don't
3 vote"; and

4 WHEREAS, he was always available to help those in need to
5 solve their problems; and

6 WHEREAS, his influence and guidance have made a long-
7 lasting impact on the political climate of the state; and

8 WHEREAS, his contribution to the character and personality
9 of Rio Arriba county will never be forgotten;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
11 OF NEW MEXICO that heartfelt condolences be extended to the
12 family of Emilio Naranjo, a loving and caring New Mexican; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the surviving sons and daughters of Emilio
15 Naranjo.

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